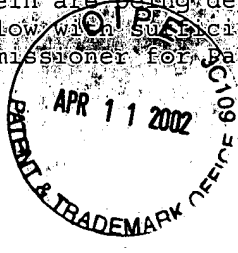
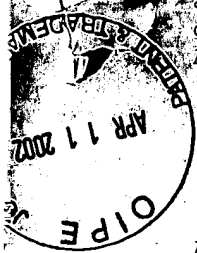


I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as attached therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.



Denise Ortega
Name

April 2, 2002
Date

Denise Ortega
Signature

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Bruce M. Bowman Group: 1600
Serial No.: 09/480,389 Group Art Unit: 1642
Filed : January 11, 2000 Examiner: A. Holleran
For : Immunoassays to Detect Diseases or Disease
Susceptibility Traits

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This paper is in response to the Office Action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) on November 6, 2001. Please amend the application as indicated below.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 31 and amend the claims as follows.